

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A security thread comprising:

a core member selectively having either -

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread bundled with the fiber coextensive therewith;

a thermal welding thread bundled with said core member coextensive therewith; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material covering said core member and said thermal welding thread in such a manner that said cover member is in contact with either or both of said core member and said thermal welding thread;

said security thread forming a loop in use.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A security thread comprising:

a core member selectively having either –

- a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or
- b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread bundled with the fiber and coextensive therewith;

a member bundled with said core member and coextensive therewith and made of a semi-hard magnetic material which can deactivate the magnetic characteristic of the soft magnetic material;

a thermal welding thread bundled with said core member and coextensive therewith; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material contacting and covering said core member and said thermal thread;

said security thread forming a loop.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A manufacturing method of a security thread comprising the steps of:

preparing a core member having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread by bundling the same with the fiber coextensively therewith;

covering a periphery of said core member by a cover member made of a nonmetal material so that said periphery is surrounded by said cover member and is not exposed; and

deforming said security thread so that said security thread forms a loop in use.

23. (Previously Presented) A manufacturing method of a security thread comprising the steps of:

preparing a core member having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread by bundling the same with the fiber coextensively therewith;

covering a periphery of said core member by a cover member made of a nonmetal material so that said periphery is surrounded by said cover member and is not exposed; and

deforming said security thread so that said security thread forms a loop in use.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)